Diphenhydramine and Methdilazine drugs

658. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had informed the Kelkar Committee that Diphenhydramine and Methdilazine are not essential drugs;

(b) if so, on what basis such conclusion has been drawn by his Ministry;

(c) what are the indications for which these drugs are used;

(d) whether his Ministry has determined any criteria to assess the essentiality of a drug; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Ministry of Health had not sent any such information to the Kelkar Committee.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The drugs are used for treatment of allergic reactions to relieve symptoms of rhinitis, bad cold, nasal irritation, treatment of Urticaria.

(d) and (e) There is no national list of essential drugs. However, the criteria for identifying drugs for peripheral level of health care are the drugs that are used for mass consumption based on prevalence of disease pattern.

Review of court marital verdicts

659. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to have an appellate court to review court martial verdicts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Government was considering such a proposal but it has since been decided not to pursue it for the time being.

Migration of Indian scientists and technology experts

660. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of highly qualified Indian scientists and technology experts who migrated to U.S.A. and other foreign countries during 1987 and 1988; and

(b) what remedial measures have been taken to prevent the scientists and technology experts from leaving the country and to what extent these measures have been a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) It has not been possible to maintain a record of Indian scientists and technologists migrating to U.S.A. and other foreign countries.

(b) A number of measures have been taken from time to time in the past to attract Indian scientists and technologists settled abroad to come back to the country. Some of these are:

— There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of Scientists Pool.

— A provision has also been made for creation of supernumerary posts.

— With a view to assisting non-resident Indians to secure expeditious clearance of their applications for setting up of industrial units in the country, a Special Cell has been

created in the Ministry of Industry.

— New scientific departments/organisations such as Departments of Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non/coventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) etc. have been set up and some of these are in high technology areas which are likely to provide opportunities for scientists and technologists and attract them into the country.

—Total outlay for science and technology has been increased in the successive Five Year Plans.

—Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers has been made to scientific institutions to improve working conditions of scientists.

— Facilities to import equipment have been provided to the scientists and technologists returning from abroad.

— Programmes have been launched through which core groups of scientists are created in the country with all necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.

— Indian origin professional men and women who have distinguished themselves in their fields of activity and are settled abroad, are being invited for short term technical assignments to assist in our developmental efforts in frontier areas of technology and emerging areas of science through a UNDP sponsored programme known as TOKEN (Transfer of know-how through expatriate Nationals).

Views of Planning Commission on Karnal Refinery

661. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference of opinion about the viability of Karnal Refinery Project;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has recently opined that the Karnal Refinery Project, with such huge investment, was not in the intrest of the country;

(c) if so, what are the points on the basis of which the Planning Commission had come to that conclusion;

(d) whether the Commission had intimated its views to the Ministries of Finance, Peroleum and Natural Gas and to the Prime Minister's Office; and

(e) if so, what is the final outcome?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (e) Karnal Refinery Project in Haryana was initially approved by the Govt. in September, 1984 as an Indian Oil Corporation Project. Subsequently, Government decided in March 1987 to implement this project as a joint venture between IOC and M/s. Tata Chemicals. A detailed project was submitted by the Joint Venture Co. (JVC) in May, 1988 with new cost estimates.

The DPR was discussed in Sept., 1988 and JVC was advised to revise the DPR incorporating issues raised during examination, which among other things, included the economic